

Sinclair
Broadcasting's
decision to force
their stations to
air an anti-Kerry
documentary days
before the

election is a clear
example of the
dangers of media
consolidation.

Since Sinclair uses
the public airwaves
free of charge, it
is obligated by law
to serve the public
interest.

I don't believe that
Sinclair is serving
the public's
interest by its
actions. Sinclair
gives over 97% of

their political
contributions to GOP
candidates, and they
force their stations
to air – as part of
their

'local' news –
ultra-conservative
commentary from
Sinclair's chief
lobbyist, Mark
Hyman. When large

companies control
the airwaves, we get
more of what's good
for the bottom line
and less of what is
needed

for democracy.
Whether Sinclair
does this in support
of conservatives or
liberals is not the
issue. The

issue is a
billion-dollar
corporation shunning
journalistic
standards in order
to advance its
political

agenda. It is a
threat to the

integrity of our
democracy. Instead
of viewing something
produced at "News

Central" far away,
it's more important
that we see real
people from our own
communities and more
substantive

news about issues
that matter.

Sinclair's actions
show why we need to
strengthen media
ownership rules, not
weaken them. They
show why the

license renewal
process needs to
involve more than a
returned postcard.
Thank you.